

Amendments to the Drawings

Please replace Fig. 3 with amended Fig. 3 (See Appendix A).

Remarks

Claims 1-20 are pending and rejected. By this Response, claims 1 and 11 are amended and claim 10 is canceled, leaving claims 2-9 and 12-20 unchanged.

OBJECTIONS

The amendment filed July 11, 2007 was objected to under 35 U.S.C. §132(a) for introducing new matter into the disclosure. Figure 3 has been amended to remove reference to element 10, and the specification has been amended to remove reference to interface 10. Claim 10 has been canceled. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

CLAIM REJECTIONS

Claims 1-7, 10-11 and 13-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Chatterjee (U.S. Patent 6,471,136). Claims 8-9, 12 and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chatterjee in view of being optimum values.

The present invention is directed to a method to regulate a circulating air portion and/or intake air portion in a passenger compartment of a vehicle. The regulation is based on two measured quantities - the hazardous gas concentration and the temperature. These two quantities are measured by a temperature-compensated sensor. The measured temperature is used for two purposes - (1) for temperature compensation of the sensor measuring the hazardous gas concentration, and (2) to regulate the circulating air and/or intake air portion in the passenger compartment in addition to the hazardous gas concentration measured by the sensor.

The temperature-compensated sensor for detecting hazardous gas concentrations is therefore operated as a temperature-compensated sensor, whereby the temperature is measured by the sensor for temperature compensation and in addition is used to regulate the circulating air portion and/or intake air portion.

Therefore, claims 1 and 11 are directed to two kinds of uses of the measured temperature and not only the use of a temperature-compensated sensor to measure the (uncompensated) hazardous gas concentration and the temperature to regulate the circulating air and/or intake air

portion. To state this point more clearly, amended claims 1 and 11 stress that the measured temperature is used for temperature compensation.

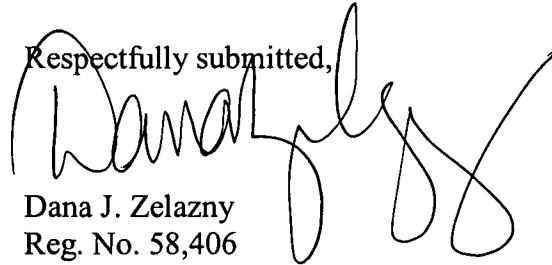
Chatterjee discloses an a system with a sensor for detecting organic compounds, carbon dioxide concentration or a leak of refrigerant from an air conditioning apparatus of an air conditioning system. The sensor and an additional sensor, which monitors the temperature, are connected to a control unit, whereby the sensor is supplying a triggering signal. The measured hazardous gas concentration and the measured temperature are used to regulate the circulating air flow. This system of the sensor and the additional sensor connected to the controller is, as an apparatus feature, a system capable to realize a temperature compensation of the sensor. Dussault (U.S. Patent 5,261,415) and Wood (U.S. Patent 5,261,415) disclose different kinds of gas sensors.

Neither Chatterjee, Dussault nor Wood, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the use of a temperature-compensated sensor for detecting the hazardous gas concentrations and the temperature to regulate the circulating air portion an/or intake air portion and use the same measured temperature for temperature-compensation (i.e., the reduction of the temperature dependent measuring error) of the sensor for detecting the hazardous gas concentration. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Entry of the amendments presented herein is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dana J. Zelazny', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

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APPENDIX A